

The Alma Record.

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at
ALMA, MICHIGAN

C. F. BROWN, Editor and Prop.

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The Record is entered at the post office at Alma, Michigan, for transmission through the mail as second class matter.



"Long may it wave o'er the Land of the Free and the Home of the Brave."



Potatoes Patriotism

Eat one more potato a day, uniform and all

The Michigan potato is trying to help you win this war.

ALMA WOMEN IN WAR WORK

Mrs. Sara Smith, Red Cross
Mrs. J. E. Collins, Com. of National Defense

Important

The 8th and the 23rd day of each month are the dates set by the financial committee of the Red Cross, for the payment of your pledge money. It is very necessary to observe these particular days, for then there is to be a representative from the committee at each bank to receive kindly offered to assist. The 8th of May will soon be here.

Have you registered? Don't fail to do so before Saturday night. Registration involves no obligation whatever upon you. You cannot be drafted. You are not even asked to do anything which you do not really want to do. Register today.

Women are not pledging themselves for any service. Simply saying what they could and would be glad to do for their country, for Gratiot county or for Alma if their services were asked for.

Here is good news—the average attendance at the Red Cross room last week was 18, the best record yet. As a result 6,500 gauze sponges were made, 55 suits of pajamas, 11 comfort pillows, 5 helmets, 45 pairs of socks, 5 sweaters, 5 pairs of wristlets, 2 hospital bed shirts, 37 bundles of tri. bandages, 2 bundles of T bandages, 4 bundles of many-tailed bandages, were sent in the last shipment. 210 pairs of socks were knit during the last month.

Mark this date on your calendar, the 25th of May. Why? Because the noted Lyman Howe Moving Pictures are to be shown on that day and the following. Where? At the M. E. church. Why? To show the people of Alma what really splendid things there are in the line of "movies," and incidentally as a big benefit for the Red Cross.

Keep the "Melting Pot" at the Junior High school and the fourth grades, boiling, by searching out all your old salable metals, old gold rings, silver hat pins, etc., to deposit therein. The fourth grade boys of Miss McLaren's room turned in \$4.00 last week. Good for you boys.

The benefit shows at the Liberty Theater, last week netted the Red Cross \$26.65.

RED CROSS BENEFIT

The Alma high school chorus will produce "A Nautical Knot" Friday evening, May 10th, for the benefit of the Red Cross. It has been the custom for some years past for the chorus to give an annual concert, which this year will take the form of an operetta in two acts, arranged about the departure and return of the "Bouncing Billow." The parts will be taken by Gertrude Benedict, Mary DuBois, Harold Johnstone, Justin Cash and Robert Wyatt, assisted by an orchestra and chorus, representing girls, artists, sailors and townspeople. The admission will be 25c and 35c.

FORTY LIBERTY TRUCKS LEAVE FOR EAST.

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less during the war to take out the finished product of war from Alma, the Liberty truck, a regular camp can be looked for in the eastern part of the city, near the largest of Alma's industrial enterprises. Alma will probably have from fifty to two hundred during the time that Liberty trucks are being turned out for the war department as one of the solvers of the transportation problem, which is always one of the greatest with which an army is confronted.

When the Liberty trucks leave Alma they take their start at the end of the military road to the sea-board, which is the road which goes from Alma to St. Louis, known as the angling road, and thence to Saginaw, and to Detroit, around by way of Toledo, and the east. Alma is the terminal of this great military road and because of the manufacture of the well-known Liberty trucks here by the world's greatest exclusive truck factory, has been put on the world war map.

It means that Alma is developing into an important industrial center, when she is called upon to play her part in furnishing war supplies for Uncle Sam.

It is expected that forty more of the Liberty trucks will be ready to leave to go into active service either today or Friday and these will also be driven through to the coast by the soldiers who have been sent here to learn to drive trucks.

ANNUAL MEETING WAS HELD HERE

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hundred dollars behind in its orders, and that in spite of the fact that from eight to ten hundred dollars worth of paint was being made and shipped each day that the concern is still almost as far behind on its orders. It seemed to be the opinion of all that the company was in a very prosperous condition.

The matter of building was taken up at the meeting and it was decided that it was necessary to build an extension of 100 feet to the plant, which is to be thirty feet in width. M. A. Bamforth and T. A. Bamforth stated that they would place six thousand dollars worth of their private stock on sale to provide funds for the addition, and that the proceeds from the sale of the stock would be donated to the company. This is practically the only stock that can be secured, and only a limited amount will be available to any person.

Saturday morning the directors met and elected officers for the coming year. The officers elected are: president, T. A. Bamforth, M. A. Bamforth, vice president and general manager; H. J. Masseling, treasurer; H. W. Vane, secretary; Otto Sanderhoff, merchandising manager; B. F. Getchell, superintendent of buildings.

At the same time meeting of the district and division salesmen were held here.

WITTIG MURDERED FAMILY OF FIVE IN LAFAYETTE

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at this time. Then he said he shot Mrs. Kimball. Three knife wounds in the woman's body indicate that Wittig went wild once that he saw blood. The body of the woman was found later just where she had dropped inside of the bedroom door.

On the bed were found the bodies of her two little sons, Clarence, aged seven years, and Charles, aged 4, both of whom had come to their death by strangulation. Wittig maintains that he did not kill the children, but the position of the woman's body in the doorway suggests that she died defending to the last, the lives of her young sons.

The little two year old daughter, Louise, was found dead in the room where Mrs. Kimball was shot, evidently struck by the shot gun when Wittig struck at Mrs. Kimball.

Late Sunday afternoon Wittig was taken into custody by the Gratiot officers at his home in Lafayette township and taken to the county jail at Ithaca. He gave himself up once that the officers appeared on the scene and never attempted to resist.

Two hours after he was lodged in jail Prosecuting Attorney Ora L. Smith had wrested a confession from him that he had killed Mr. and Mrs. Kimball, but he maintained that he did not kill the children. His admission in the jail to the reporter that he might have struck little Louise, when he attempted to hit Mrs. Kimball with the butt of the gun, is the nearest to an admission that he has made of the children.

Monday morning he was taken into circuit court, the Epler case being momentarily, and quick justice dealt out. Circuit Judge E. J. Moinet sentenced him to serve for life at Marquette, as soon as he had admitted on the stand that he had taken the lives of Mr. and Mrs. Kimball, and he was taken there Monday to expiate his crime. The murder was by far the most foul which has ever been committed in Gratiot county, and has created an intense feeling. It was just as well that justice came so swiftly, and that he was so soon taken from the county to answer for his crimes.

Dorothy Dalton in "Flare-Up-Sal" and "The Son of Democracy"—Idle hour, Thursday.—adv.

STATE OF MICHIGAN IN THE DRY COLUMN

(Continued from page seventeen)
Some thousands of bartenders were of course thrown out of employment and can now turn to some good useful employment which will aid the country in its struggle against the Hun militarism. They can find most useful jobs on farms or on the firing line, thus becoming producers for their country, or aid in the destruction of the Hun hords, instead of aiding in some degree at least the degeneracy of Michigan's manhood.

If the law is properly enforced, there is no great reason why Michigan should go wet again. People have become disgusted with the saloon and its ways, its open law violations. People have asked for state wide prohibition and proper enforcement is due.

KELCH A FEATURE WITNESS IN THE CASE

(Continued from page seventeen)
It has been very evident throughout the defense and the prosecution were going into the qualifications of the jurors very closely, in the desire to keep from the jury any one who might be prejudiced in the least either towards or against the defendant in the case.

This naturally resulted in the calling of several venues, 204 men being called in all. Most of them were examined before the attorneys were satisfied with the jury.

Following the sentencing of Herman Wittig Monday morning, the Albert Eichorn case was resumed before Judge E. J. Moinet. During the day Dr. I. N. Brainard of this city was called to the stand and he testified that the seventeen-year-old Alma girl, Beatrice Epler, had come to her death through strangulation. Dr. Brainard was called to examine the body of the slain girl, was called to first discovered on the morning of September 5, 1917. Dr. R. B. Smith of this city, who also examined the body of the slain girl, was called to the stand and his opinion backed that of Dr. Brainard.

Charles Hooper of this city, the young man who found the body of Beatrice Epler near his home on the morning of September 5, was also called to the stand Monday and he told of the finding of the body.

Tuesday Dr. Carney was called and under the fire of questions hurled at him told of the examination that was made and particularly of the marks around the neck of the murdered girl, and told that without question she had been strangled.

Ben Kelch of this city, called to the stand Tuesday, has proven to be the star witness for the prosecution so far, and his testimony on the stand threw a regular bomb into the ranks of the defense.

Under the skillful questioning of Kelly Searl and Ora L. Smith for the prosecution, it was brought out that Kelch met both Albert Eichorn and John F. Brennan on the streets of Alma on the night of September 4th, and that he was invited to drink with them. The defense tried hard to shake the damaging testimony of Ben Kelch but every effort to tear down this thread of the web proved unavailing.

A brother-in-law of Eichorn's was also called to the stand on Tuesday, and questioning brought forth the fact that Eichorn had been seen by him in Alma on the night of the murder.

Wednesday Kelch was again back on the stand that was followed by others, who added to the testimony, which is being injected into the records, to be weighed for and against Eichorn by the jury.

There is little likelihood of the case getting to the jury inside of another week as there are still a large number of witnesses to be called in the case.

OBITUARY

Oliver L. Madden was born in Riley township, Clinton county, Mich., on August 29, 1863. She moved with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Madden, to Elwell, May 1st, 1881, and has been a continuous resident here since that date. She was united in marriage to Roswell J. Lathrop August 28, 1881. To this union was born Nettie B., who now is Mrs. Marie Slingluff. Besides her daughter she is survived by one granddaughter, Miss Doris, three brothers, Wm. A. Madden of Grand Rapids, Ernest A. Madden of St. Louis, and Ray A. Madden of Alma.

The scene at the grave was unusually touching as the casket of Mrs. Lola Lathrop and the casket of her late husband, R. J. Lathrop, sank slowly down, side by side, into its freshly made crypt, literally loaded with flowers, beneath the earth's surface. The sad event has had a depressing effect upon the entire community.

Every heart has an abundance of sympathy for Mrs. Slingluff, who was her mother's steadfast bosom companion. This was unmistakably manifested at the funeral, when a large out-pouring of friends and a profusion of flowers bore silent testimony to the community's sentiments.

The funeral was held at the Lathrop home Thursday afternoon. Rev. J. Frank Jackson delivered a very comforting sermon. The remains were interred on the family lot in Alma. The funeral was largely attended by those who came to pay their last respects to one who had grown dear to all who knew her.

COUNTY IS SHORT ON LIBERTY LOAN

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the top. It is time that the county did this after lagging behind on the first and second Liberty loans. It's time to show that the flag is still waving in old Gratiot, and that the money of the county is behind the boys who have gone to the front.

The list of subscribers and the amounts subscribed may be published in next week's Record. The man who can subscribe heavily and only takes a fifty dollar bond would hardly like to see such a list published and it is fairly certain that the man who can and has not subscribed at all, would not like to see such list published. It is being done all over the country, and may be done here, and it may be that there are some who would like to get on the list, or be on such a list for what they can do, if it is published. It must be done before Saturday, when the campaign closes.

Alma is a lagging on the third loan, not having passed its share of the quota of \$155,000, and is still in need of considerable money to pass her end of the subscriptions.

ANNUAL MEETING

Frances Willard Union held its annual meeting on Wednesday afternoon with nineteen members and one visitor present. All reports for the past year were very satisfactory and the year ahead seems full of promise. A spirit of joy prevailed the meeting because of the passing of the saloon from Michigan, for which all W. T. C. U. women have worked hard and long.

The following officers were elected: Mrs. Ella Wood, president; Mrs. Minnie Crandell, cor. and rec. sec'y; Mrs. Nellie Bildson, Treas.

INVITED TO GAME

The drafted men of Gratiot county are invited to be the guests of the Alma College Athletic Association at the Kalamazoo college-Alma college base ball game here Friday, May 10. The invitation is extended by Coach Harry Hemer of the college.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Through the solicitation of friends around the county, I have finally decided to announce my candidacy for county drain commissioner at the primaries in August on the Republican ticket. I have filled the office of highway commissioner for seven years in the township of Emerson and feel qualified for the position. If nominated and elected I will do my best to please the voters of Gratiot county.

Claude D. Knapp.

FOR DRAIN COMMISSIONER

To the Republican Electors of Gratiot County.

At the solicitation of my friends I have decided to announce my candidacy for the nomination for Drain Commissioner of Gratiot county. I will appreciate your support at the August primaries.

C. G. RASOR.

NOTICE

All owners of dogs must call at the city clerk's office and pay their dog tax before May 15.

Carl E. Gallagher, City Clerk.

PROCLAMATION

The beautiful custom of setting apart one day in the year as Mothers' Day ought to make an especially strong appeal to us this year. The mothers of our land are freely spending time and energy and ability in many useful forms of war service. More than all, not counting the cost, they are bravely giving up their sons in the cause of Liberty; and it is entirely fitting, while we honor the memory of the dead, that we should make mention also of the splendid spirit of service and sacrifice which animates the living.

Therefore, that we may pay a special tribute of affection to the mothers who still live and honor the memory of those who have gone from us, I, Albert E. Sleeper, Governor of the State of Michigan, do hereby designate and set aside Sunday, May 12th, next as Mothers' Day; and I call upon our people both young and old, to gather in their several places of worship and take part in services appropriate to the day and, by the wearing of a red flower for the living mother and a white for the dear departed, to symbolize their love and reverence for mothers of the nation.

Let me suggest, too, that absent sons and daughters take this occasion to visit, if possible, the mother in the old home, or, where such visit is impossible, that they send a message of cheer and greeting. By this mothers may know that in the rush of affairs they are not forgotten.

In accordance with a resolution of the Congress of the United States, I further request the people of the people of Michigan, on the day aforesaid to display the United States flag in their homes and in other suitable their desire to pay homage to American motherhood.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State this thirtieth day of April, in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and eighteen, and of the Commonwealth the eighty-second.

ALBERT E. SLEEPER,
By the Governor
Coleman C. Vaughn,
Sec'y of State.

Record Wants Bring Results!

WANTED!

Waitresses:
\$20, room and board.
Chambermaids:
\$18, room and board.
Fireman:
\$50 room and board.
Also chef, pastry cook,
2nd cook, porter, and
bell boys.
PARK HOTEL
St. Louis, Mich.

Evenings by Appointment

E. LEWIS
BEAUTY PARLOR
E. BURNHAM SYSTEM
Manicuring, Facial Massage,
Shampooing, Hair Dressing,
and Scalp Treatments
ELECTROLYSIS A SPECIALITY
Hours: 8:30 to 12 M., 1 to 5:30 P. M.
Phone: Union 375 317 State Street
ALMA, MICHIGAN

Lybolt & Smith

DRAYING OF ALL KINDS

Piano Moving a Specialty

Union 296 Bell 129

Announcement

I will engage in the general real estate business in this city, and will be glad to aid anyone who is seeking a home or home site or who is desirous of selling.

Liberty Bonds will be taken at par on sales of property.

CLARENCE WHEELER
Alma, Mich.

Cut Flowers

I make a specialty of cut flowers for

Funeral Work

Anything in Bouquets, Wreaths and Designs furnished Promptly

J. C. PARDEE,
FLORIST

PREPAREDNESS

Prepare your Tires against possible trouble

Haines Tire Shop

Old Tires Made New

Pine St.—Near the Bridge



Why Not Build a Bigger Barn?

You need more stable room. Why not lift up the old barn and build a modern stable below—make the walls and floor of concrete, put in new equipment and be ready to add to your dairy herd or fatten more cattle this summer? We can furnish all materials needed for that barn, silo, granary or shed and we can recommend a good contractor.

Little Rock Coal Company

Both Phones

Alma, Mich.